

Approved For Release 2000/08/31 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100190024-2

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

СТЕ

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

CIA/WHSS **SENSITIVE**

SOURCE REF:

CIA/OC/WH/ZWH 741213

ROUTING	1	4	7	10
	2	5	8	11
	3	6	9	12

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR FAZIO.4

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS

INVOLVED

ITEM NO: WH-3

DATE: 13 DECEMBER 1974

SUBJECT: PANAMA NERVOUS ABOUT CUBAN PRESENCE

REF

25X1C

THE TORRIJOS GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE RAPID EXPANSION OF THE CUBAN PRESENCE IN PANAMA SINCE THE TWO COUNTRIES REESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS LAST AUGUST [REDACTED]

25X1C

THE CUBANS HAD SON-

SIDERABLY EXCEEDED THE LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, WHICH HAD BEEN SET BY PANAMA. THE SOMEWHAT ABRASIVE PERSONALITY OF CUBAN AMBASSADOR JOSE ALFREDO GARCIA BERTRAND ALSO SEEMS TO HAVE IRRITATED THE PANAMANIANIANS. AN APPARENT INDICATION OF THE TORRIJOS REGIME'S CURRENT DISPLEASURE IS THE DESIGNATION OF ONE NATIONAL GUARD G-2 OFFICER TO BE THE CONTACT POINT FOR THE CUBANS; FORMERLY THEY HAD ALMOST UNLIMITED ACCESS TO THE G-2. [REDACTED]

DATE:

ORIG:

UNIT:

EXT:

25X1C

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

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[illegible]

REPRODUCTION BY OTHER THAN THE ISSUING OFFICE IS PROHIBITED

E 2 IMPDET
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FORM A

4C

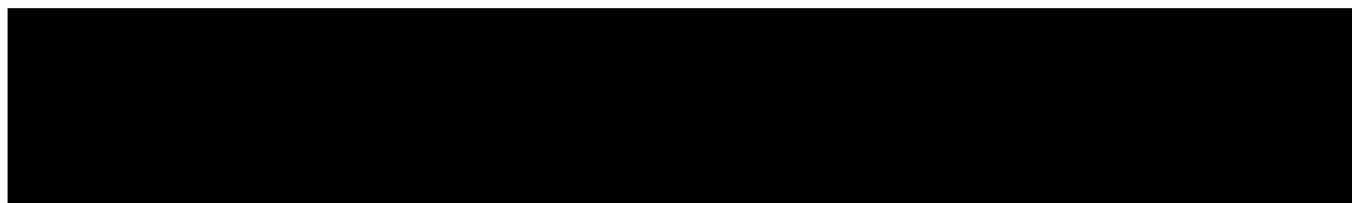
FOI Release 2
USE PREVIOUS

EDITIONS

SOURCE REF:

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

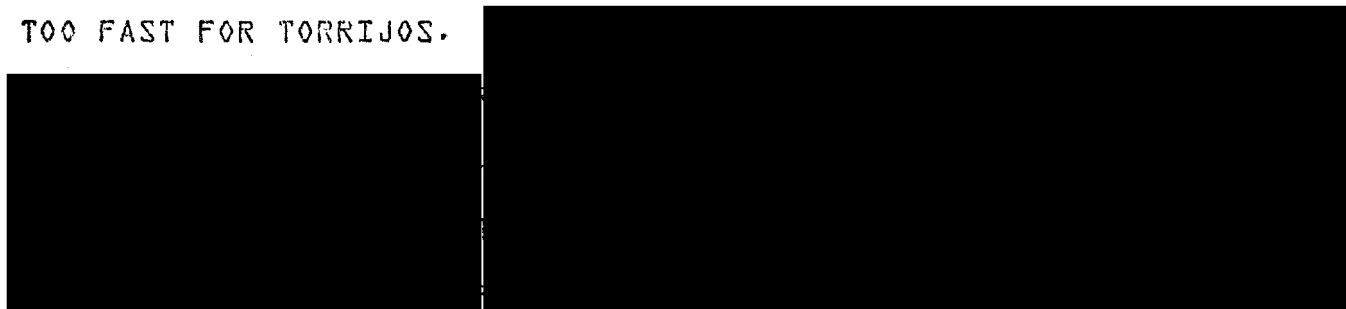
25X1C



ALTHOUGH CUBAN

25X1C

MISSION WAS MOVING VERY SLOWLY IN ORDER TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS. THE CUBANS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN MOVING TOO FAST FOR TORRIJOS.



THE CUBANS PLACE A VERY HIGH PRIORITY ON MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE TORRIJOS GOVERNMENT AND PROBABLY WOULD BE WILLING TO PULL BACK SOME DIPLOMATS AND TAKE OTHER STEPS TO AVOID FRICTION. ONE SIGN THAT THE CUBANS MAY HAVE GOTTEN THE MESSAGE IS THEIR DECISION NOT TO PRESS RIGHT NOW FOR AN AIR AGREEMENT ALLOWING CUBAN AIRLINES TO SERVE PANAMA. E-2 IMPDET.

(SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: WH DIV AND NIO

DATE: 13 DEC 74

ORIG: /WHSS

UNIT: CIA OPS CTR

EXT: 9340

25X1A

25X1A

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CLASSIFICATION

COORDINATING OFFICERS

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